P-20 Council Meeting Notes October 21, 2019

Marion E. Profitt Training Center Appoquinimink School District 118 South 6th Street Odessa, DE

Members Present: Susan Bunting, Madeleine Bayard, Sarah Bucic, Cerron Cade, Kiki Evinger, Kevin Fitzgerald, Representative Earl Jaques, Rhonda Lehman, Kendall Massett, Michael Quaranta, Justina Sapna, Senator Dave Sokola, Kim Sudler, and Steve Yeatman.

Others Present: Jenna Ahner, Christine Alois, Monica Gant, Luke Rhine, Joseph Jones, John Marinucci, Janine Sorbello, Alison White, Shana Payne, Kim Krzanowski, Shawn Larrimore, Kelly Sherretz, Shelley Rouser, Matthew Burrows, and Kathleen Smith.

I. Welcome and Objectives

Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, called the meeting to order at 2:35pm.

Dr. Bunting provided an overview of the agenda and outlined objectives for the meeting which included the council routines and next steps, subcommittee updates and updates from P-20 Council members.

II. Approval of July 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Bunting presented the draft minutes from the July 8, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by Representative Jaques and seconded by Secretary Cade to approve the July 8, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried.

III. P-20 Council Routines and Next Steps

Jenna Ahner, Executive Director, State Board of Education, addressed the Council and welcomed new representatives. She provided an overview of proposed routines, sharing feedback from July's meeting and summarizing the work that has been done to date. Ms. Ahner reiterated that membership on the P-20 Council is specified in State Code. She reviewed the P-20 Council mission, presented key research questions, outlined the goals for FY2020, and explained the function of Council committees. Calendar invitations will be sent for future meeting dates.

Ms. Ahner reviewed the next steps regarding communications, which include newsletters, website updates, and the public meeting calendar.

Members suggested that the December meeting focus on early literacy. Representatives Jaques suggested a joint meeting with the House and Senate Education Committees to communicate the history of the Council, as well as its purpose and accomplishments.

IV. P-20 Council Subcommittee Updates

a. Subcommittees to Reduce Math and English Remediation

Dr. Monica Gant, Associate Secretary, Academic Support, Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) presented an update on the work of the ELA and Math Subcommittees regarding college readiness. Dr. Gant shared that both the ELA and Math committees met their original objectives. She reviewed the status of the six ELA subcommittee recommendations and the ten Math subcommittee recommendations. The Council discussed the purported gender gap in mathematics remediation. The P-20 Council discussed the proposed path forward for the Research and Evaluation Subcommittee (formerly the ELA Research and Evaluation Working Group) to include representatives from both ELA and Math. Objectives and deliverables for the Committee were discussed. The Council considered how it would like to proceed with the remaining recommendations. Council members will recommend participants with expertise in math from IHEs and districts to participate in this work moving forward.

V. Perkins V and Career and Technical Education Discussion and Next Steps

Mr. Luke Rhine, Director of Career and Technical Education, DDOE, reviewed how the P-20 Council has historically provided input on the development of the state's career pathways work. Mr. Rhine gave an overview of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Delaware and the Strengthening CTE Act for the 21st Century (Perkins V) and implementation timeline. Mr. Rhine defined next steps and opportunities for stakeholders to be involved in the State Plan development.

Ms. Justina Sapna, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Delaware Technical Community College, and Mr. Rhine facilitated a conversation on key questions related to the work of P-20 Council members.

The Council discussed integration of skills across industries through a combination of academic coursework and work experience. The Council discussed how secondary institutions can align with post-secondary institutions in transferring credit from CTE programs. They also discussed the desire to continue work related to connected degree programs. They discussed the need for more work-based learning opportunities for students, and the need for adult education programs to support adults who are underemployed or unemployed.

Members discussed the need to reach out to parents and map communications to different audiences. They discussed opportunities to facilitate convening opportunities across institutions and opportunities to leverage existing forums to help move this work forward. They discussed how local education agencies (LEA) and postsecondary institutions can best engage the community to complete the local needs assessments, the local plan, and to provide supports to and/or prepare educators to implement high-quality CTE programs.

The Council discussed next steps on stakeholder engagement, including opportunities to engage through an online survey and opportunities to connect to LEA's or postsecondary institutions to develop local applications. The public comment period on the draft State Plan will extend from December 23, 2019 through February 14, 2020.

VI. Early Literacy Subcommittee Work to Date and Next Steps

Dr. Shelley Rouser, Co-Chair, Early Literacy subcommittee, provided an overview of subcommittee's work since March 2019. She was joined by committee members Kim Krzanowski, Director of the Office of Early Learning, DDOE, and Dr. Matt Burrows, superintendent, Appoquinimink School District. The Council discussed the recommendations related to licensure and certification and teacher preparation programs. Dr. Krzanowski addressed the contributions to early literacy by birth—to-age five programs. The Council discussed which recommendations can be implemented short term and which will have the greatest impact. The Council discussed the role that P-20 Council can play in ensuring that the subcommittee recommendations are enacted.

VII. Updates from P-20 Council Members

Dr. Christine Alois, Deputy Secretary, Department of Education, shared work on the Open Data Portal that the Council can utilize as a resource. Ms. Rhonda Lehman, Department of Technology and Information (DTI), stated that DTI will continue to work with DDOE on data dashboards. Ms. Shana Payne, Director, Higher Education Office, DDOE, shared that her office is convening a committee focused on dual enrollment and communicating benefits of the program to high school students. Dr. Kimberley Sudler, Delaware State University (DSU) shared that DSU welcomed its first freshman class in recent years to enroll entirely in college-level courses in math and ELA. Kendall Massett, Delaware Charter School Network (DCSN), asked for the academic data on the portal to be updated with the most recent data available.

VIII. Next Steps and Adjournment

Ms. Ahner will share follow-up information via email.

The next meeting of the P-20 Council is scheduled for December 16, 2019. The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.